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ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

ON THE ECONOMIC SCENE FAX DISTRIBUTION TO END JAN. 2 – This is the last edition of On the Economic Scene that will be distributed by fax. The newsletter moves to an all-electronic e-mail format beginning with the Jan. 9 edition. If you currently receive the Economic Scene each week only by fax, and wish to receive it in the future by e-mail, please e-mail us at doed@volusia.org requesting that your e-mail address be added to the distribution list.

VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS CAREER ACADEMIES – Volusia County Schools (VCS) has 41 career academies in 10 high schools for the 2018-2019 school year. Career academies are small learning communities that combine a college-preparatory curriculum with a career focus. Academies provide unique learning opportunities through extensive business partnerships, integrated instruction, hands-on learning, field studies, service learning, career shadowing, co-ops and internships. To learn more, call the VCS Career Connection and Technical Education team at 386-734-7190.

TRADE MISSION TO THE CARIBBEAN REGION – Grow your international sales in 2018 by participating in the U.S. Commercial Service's Trade Americas program from May 6 to 18 in an event offering U.S. companies the opportunity to explore six markets in the Caribbean region. The region as a whole represents a market of about 43 million people who collectively imported over \$20.9 billion of U.S. goods in 2016. This trade mission has two key components including the U.S. Commercial Service's Trade Americas – Business Opportunities in the Caribbean Region Conference hosted in Miami as well as the arrangement of business-to-business matchmaking appointments in up to two Caribbean countries. Participants will also receive pre-arranged one-one-one consultations with U.S. diplomats with expertise in markets throughout the region. The conference will focus on regional specific sessions, market access and trade financing resources. Participating U.S. companies will be able to make industry contacts, gain market insights, identify potential partners and advance specific projects. Please apply early as spaces are limited. For details, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yahyhtwt>.

HOW TO START A BUSINESS IN FLORIDA – SCORE will present a free workshop, "How to Start A Business in Florida," from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, at Deltona City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd., Deltona. Learn how to select a business, write your own business plan, establish a business name, and register your business with the IRS. The workshop will also cover financial forecasting, city and county and taxes, and required permits. Reservations are required. For details, visit www.volusiaflagler.score.org or call 386-255-6889.

INDUSTRY ON TAP: BREWERIES – From 2006 to 2016, breweries accounted for more than half of the employment growth within the nation's beverage manufacturing industry. U.S. employment in the brewery industry exceeded 30,000 for the first time in 2013. It had remained basically flat from 2001 to 2008 before reaching its lowest point in 2010, at 24,864 employees, following the 2007–09 recession. Employment in breweries increased from 2010 to 2016, with the industry adding 58,580 jobs – a 135 percent increase. The largest 12-month employment increases occurred in 2015 and 2016, with growth rates in both years of about 21 percent. To review a detailed report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8c3x8kk>.

LOGISTICS SUMMIT & EXPO – The 10th annual Logistic Summit & Expo to be held in Mexico City is the most important business meeting for the supply chain in Mexico and Central America. The same event in 2016 hosted more than 13,000 visitors with more than 800 executives, 25 chambers, 300 exhibitors and specialized media supporting the event. Enterprise Florida (EFI) can provide one-on-one assistance, such as arranging meetings with potential distributors, logistics support, sector briefings, and translation services. EFI is also offering Target Sector Trade Show Grants to qualified Florida companies to cover 50 percent of the cost of the exhibition booth, up to \$6,000! To learn more, contact Business Specialist Virgil Kimball at 386-248-8048.

NOAA GOES-S SATELLITE TO LAUNCH IN MARCH – NOAA's Geostationary Operation Environmental Satellite-S, known as GOES-S, arrived at a clean room at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Dec. 4 in preparation for its scheduled Cape Canaveral launch on March 1. The GOES-S is the second in a series of next-generation geostationary weather satellites offering three times the number of imaging channels with four times greater image resolution. It will be known as GOES-17 when it reaches final orbit. After a test phase of its instruments and data, GOES-17 will be declared operational as the new GOES-West satellite. It will provide coverage of the U.S. West Coast, Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico, Central America, parts of South America, and the Pacific Ocean extending to Guam. This new spacecraft will improve hurricane tracking and intensity forecasts, increase thunderstorm and tornado warning lead-times, and enhance space weather monitoring. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y7ppzs9n>.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! – Thank you for supporting On the Economic Scene. Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2018!

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information director, at imagley@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.